

## Who is the Author of Shinto Epitaph Listed in Some Vietnam National History Books?

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In the history of the Vietnam feudal dynasties, so to speak in the years too late sixteenth century to the first half of the seventeenth century was the most turbulent times. In the north of the Mac occupied (called Northern Dynasty), south of the Le - Trinh occupied (called the Southern Dynasties). Later Nguyen Hoang went to Quang Thuan proconsul became influential in Cochin. The civil war between feudal corporations had pushed the people into intensive "skin pot boil the meat" extremely miserable. Such situation has major production of "public spirit" with glorious career, helping for his enlightened king. Their careers associated with the victories and the place of battlefield. Later Le dynasty unified the country, history called the Le Trung Hung and the meritorious official were rewarded, including "Thai te, Vinh Quoc cong" Hoang Dinh Ai (Thai te equivalent with Prime minister today, Vinh Quoc cong – is the highest honorary that the King gave to the officials). He is both a talented generals and martial arts, peaked title glory. So when he took very seriously been thinking dynasty throne and given 5 days to take care of the vast land of worship. Also appointed "Ta thi lang bo le" (equivalent with deputy minister of Culture ministry today) set up the ceremony, Nguyen Le compose the epitaph Shinto to record merits. But in fact, through the documents we have studied, the epitaph was not written by Nguyen Le composing the ceremony (as a number of recorded history), but of Dr Ngo Tri Hoa. Contents of the epitaph are valuable in terms of history, literature for studies of Vietnam History period beginning the second half of the sixteenth century to seventeenth century, as well as the merits of the Prime Minister Hoang Dinh Ai. Also, determine the confusion in history, contributing additional written work of Dr Ngo Tri Hoa.

For years the study of the work of pacification of the Mac, the Le Trung Hung in Vietnam (the period beginning the second half of the sixteenth century to seventeenth century) as well as learn the merits, Hoang Dinh Ai<sup>1</sup>, it is usually based on the history of Vietnam, especially the epitaph "Shinto memorials". According to the "Dai Viet (Vietnam) Records of the Historian (Dai Viet su ky toan thu)," Calendar Release Dynasty (Lich trieu hien chuong loai chi)"<sup>2</sup> is recorded in the epitaph author of Shinto composing by Nguyen Le, recorded content such as follows: "... November, 15<sup>th</sup>, Dong Binh attended the court affairs, Prime Minister Hoang Dinh Ai was died. Ai is an educated person, understanding of war, serious military situation<sup>3</sup>. Inside the help of intrigue, go outside, at the conquest, the body underwent several hundred battles. He is good at both martial arts and literature, still do not get that on the face of authority, incentives are often great lady doctor, and carefully preserve the law. Contemporaries praised his virtue. He died at aged of 81 years. Funeral in Van Lung village, Thach Thanh district<sup>4</sup>, was given the 1000 money, people in 10 villages to worship. Nguyen Le was appointed for composing Theology epitaph to record his merits<sup>5</sup>.

Thus if we base on the issue of the author writing the epitaph, there is nothing to debate, but in fact the author of this epitaph writing was not Nguyen Le, that was Dr Ngo Chi Hoa. For reference base stock, we have to investigate the relevant sources and found the epitaph was copied verbatim in the Hoang genealogy<sup>6</sup> and the trilogy, which is being saved kept at the Library of Han – Nom (Chinese – Vietnamese) Institute- Hanoi: "Vinh Loc district press" (wrote about the custom and geography), author Luu Cong Dao compiled Gia Long in the 15th (1816)<sup>7</sup>. Vinh Loc chronicle, compiled in Tu Duc 14th (1867)<sup>8</sup> and Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province, edited in Duy Tan (1911). The documents are part of the unified communications recording clause dating back of the Epitaph, content verbatim as follows: Hoang Dinh 7<sup>th</sup> renovation quarterlies year, quarter-Dragon, Doctor in Academy East universities, Ly Trai, Dong Thanh, Ngo Tri Hoa edited. (Hoang Dinh 7<sup>th</sup> year March (1607)<sup>9</sup>, King Le Kinh Tong. Ngo Tri Hoa- commune people Dong Cac District, doctoral graduation (1592) compiled. So who was he, Ngo Chi Hoa author? Look up in the history books:

"Release Calendar Dynasty"<sup>10</sup>, the "Great Vietnamese history"<sup>11</sup>, "The Science of Vietnam PhD"<sup>12</sup> scored quite extensive his profile situation: he came from the provincial capital of Bac Ninh, about Hong Duc reign (1460-1497), king Le Thanh Tong, his forefather Ngo Cong Dinh grandfather, emigrated to the Ly Trai, Dong Cac district, Nghe An province and created a tribe in this region. 28 years old, in examination of Dragon Year (Nham Thin), dating to the 12th Quang Hung (1592), both father and son were passing the Doctor<sup>13</sup>. From this rare affair, King Le The Tong had given his father about 10 golden letters when the cult of honor ceremony "Khoa danh thien ha huu, phu tu the gian vo" (That meant that passing the doctor degree very much in the country, but father and son pass in the same time, in the history, never seen before). And there is inscribed in the epitaph Dr. topic of Nham Thin, Quang Hung 12<sup>th</sup> year (1592) at the Temple of literature in Hanoi<sup>14</sup>: "everyone was happy to see the peaceful life scenes, under the king and saint., which he and his son pass in one year, so wonderful"<sup>15</sup>

After examination, he was named "An sat su Son Tay" (the second rank of official in Son Tay region), soon to be convened as the "Do cap lai su khoa" discussing the affairs with the King, promoted "Huu Thi lang bo hinh" (equivalent with deputy minister of Justice ministry nowadays) that took office in Thanh Hoa. Year of Giap Thin, Hoang Dinh 5<sup>th</sup> year (1604), the official called him about getting back to "Ta thi bo lang", "Phu Loc ba – the 3<sup>rd</sup> rank of title in the feudal court". Year of Binh Ngo (year of Horse) Hoang Dinh 7<sup>th</sup> year (1606), he was appointed Chief of Mission and Deputy Ambassador Nguyen Thuc and Pham Hong Nho, Nguyen Danh The, Nguyen Di Thi,... to go to Ming dynasty (China). Mau Than year, Hoang Dinh 9<sup>th</sup> year (1608) he was given the official ambassador "Thuong bo" (Minister of Agriculture nowadays) and Te tuu (equivalent with Rector of the 1<sup>st</sup> and unique university in Vietnam feutral) at Quoc Tu Giam. The following year he was promoted as Phu Xuan. In the winter, October in Hoang Dinh 19<sup>th</sup> year, Mau Ngo year (Year of pig) (1618), he and Le Bat Tu, Pham Tran send to the King 6 new points and were accepted. Year of the Pig, Vinh Tô 4<sup>th</sup> year (1623), this time the enemy Spring (Xuan) instigation, many rising theft charges, King Le Than Tong after coming back, for he made up with a dominant "Doc thi" with Trinh Coi to pacify at Son Tay. After the success, he was also named Thai Bao. 21<sup>th</sup> November Vinh Tô 5<sup>th</sup> year (1625) at King Le Than Tong, cause by serious illness he died, at age 62, was named as "Xuan Quan cong" (the highest title that the king gave to the officials having big services for country) Thus through historical summaries Ngo Tri Hoa can see he also came under the academic path, officials have reached the peak of glory, but the writings leave remains unclear. We have also reviewed the capitalist system is chairman said he had a poem written in the book "Toan Viet Thi Luc," and all is still a mystery. With the scientific data we have collected, below please give some insight to prove.

Firstly: Contents biographical epitaph inscribed meritorious behavior of Prime Minister Hoang Dinh Ai. He is a god has a great list of pacification of the Mac, the Le Trung Hung (stage too late sixteenth century early seventeenth century). Ngo Chi Hoa himself also lived in this historical period; he passed the Ph.D. year (1592) when he was 28 years old. Hoang Dinh Ai's dead (1607), 15 years after he passed the Doctor, so the epitaph composed by him is also very consistent with the historical period.

Second: The stele was star of the Hoang genealogy (Hoang toc gia pha); Considering the layout of writing we believe: the genealogy must be a Sinologist educated composer, because the syntax is not wrong, semicolon sentences clear, coherent layout. Furthermore surely composed and why genealogy epitaph contents their children descended Hoang. Not supposed reason why epitaph that time, they were renamed the author prepared the epitaph. This could hardly happen! Here if they set out to copy the wrong assumption is also wrong to copy some text, such as examinations, hometown, title ... But in terms the authors wrote, purely coincidental about examinations, passing year, hometown, names such as history books have recorded about Dr Ngo Tri Hoa.

Thirdly: A very reliable source that even books Vinh Loc district<sup>17</sup> of Luu Cong Dao. He is destined to the imperial capital, after passing the exam in the province, at Qui Dau year (year of Chicken) (1813) of King Gia Long, was appointed Vinh Loc district officer. Because they want to know about the history - cultural land, enabling the taking treatment, 4 years he himself had personally go to each county district to local research and surveys. He too has expressed his views in Vinh Loc district preface of release: "*Luu gia*<sup>18</sup> *deposed a pass welding hit in the village contest (Thi Huong), in the fall of the Qui Dau (1813) was conferred the district president in the district; at leisurely road, went across the river mountains, respondents asked the old story of the village elders, explore ruins, ordinary places big mountains, long rivers, scenic area in districts, villages, and native products, celebrity, all full set, analyzed succinctly made into books. Books finished he took the title as the "district press."* It is possible the time epitaph why he has not lost.

Moreover, Tu Duc in the 14th year (1867), and Duy Tan 4th (1911) progeny generations also research, write more books interconnection also remain content, as well as the author composed epitaph is Ngo Tri Hoa.

Fourthly: In the four documents from hometown to record examinations, positions are recorded uniformly Hoa Ngo Tri, Ly Trai commune, Dong Cac District, passed the doctor at Quang Hung 12<sup>th</sup> year (1592).

Fifth: If the user based on the record, when Hoang Dinh Ai died, asked Nguyen Le composing the Theology epitaph. So certainly exist two Shinto inscription on a tomb built Hoang Dinh Ai. This cannot happen, because the native Shinto epitaph from China, it was a kind of tombstone, the shift of content taken as the legal merit. In Vietnam Le dynasty, the preparation epitaph on Theology and regulations pursuant to the deprivation of the Ming dynasty (China), which is the third from the older to the beer gods established religion. Furthermore the concept of the ancient feng shui said that the Southeast of god grave religion, religion construction god of beer on the so-called compassionate god religion. Thus the two leading therapy epitaph is hardly probable.

Sixthly: Reading the contents section of the inscription itself, as recorded in that part of Hoang Dinh Ai, we see people composing epitaphs have studied very carefully the Royal family's home, from which recorded in a specific way from the nest to the specific sons and daughters. Was it when they are sent Letters conferred on record in Thanh Hoa, Ngo Tri Hoa was also conditional exchange research can learn about family Royal Family, together with Lord Trinh country, (where has Trinh's House, Bien Thuong village, now Vinh Hung, Vinh Loc, Thanh Hoa). So he clearly wrote that part Hoang Dinh Ai so.

About content epitaph: epitaphs are written in the traditional method, which before was "leaning", the following is "intelligent". All titles can be written in prose interspersed traditional literature, proving all 4-letters writing campaign. Coherent prose clear layout, succinct writing regimen simple, using standard dictionary plausible, emotionally rich, clear writer advertisement physician knowledge, learn a qualified post-intensive grape. Especially this epitaph is valuable in terms of historical value, through recorded content provides an accurate biographical background, meritorious behavior of Thai sovereignty of Hoang Dinh Ai, and his work the Mac pacify the Le Trung Hung (late period of sixteenth century and early seventeenth century) which bibliographic records are gaps, somewhat inconsistent.

Opening the epitaph, theoretical part - the origination work has very precise use of historical references Thieu Khang<sup>19</sup> has devoted, directed revival of the Ha dynasty. La Cong<sup>20</sup> helps Tuyen Vuong<sup>21</sup> on the day enemy Tu Di<sup>22</sup> invasion, the town is manic Chu as often as the basis for reasoning, comparing, problem led to the narrative content. In the narrative content, direct writers assert problem: He family name was Hoang, name is Dinh Ai, the District Vinh Phuc<sup>23</sup> help the king of Vietnam was given: "Suy trung duc van, Hiep muu dong duc, Kien tiet tuyen luc cong than, Dac tien Khai phu, Kim Tu Vin hoc dai phu, Dong Binh chuong su, Tham du trieu chinh, Thai te tuoc Vinh cong". Additional named: Binh Chuong Nha khanh, Mau nghia cong, royal named Hau Duc (Moral in the future)

Hoang Dinh Ai was born December 23 hours (hours of tiger), Year of pig, Thong Nguyen 5<sup>th</sup> year (1527); heaven and earth is cast by the brave general, cradling funeral character, that's enjoyed by fathers. He is a talented person as La Thai Cong<sup>24</sup>, has swell state, good at poetry and music. Narrative part including the merits of Hoang Dinh Ai, Binh Thuan Year (1548 - 1556) after he means according to Minh Khang Thai Vuong Trinh Kiem to reign Hoang Dinh 8th (1607), Hoang Dinh Ai died. Writing by narrative method, merit lists for each year. Sometimes cheering, commenting about the virtue of character, making transmission inspiring readers, witnessing almost real-time contemporary scene.

End of narrative is interwoven exclamation words of praise, positive praise list of worthy character as a servant of the god of the Ha, the Zhou dynasty in China that part dependent origination theory mentioned. In the end of epitaph is all of 12 sentences, written in verse, praise the merits of Hoang Dinh Ai.

So with the bases we mentioned above, can be determined, the epitaph "Theology" of Hoang Dinh Ai was compiled by Dr. Ngo Tri Hoa, not by Nguyen Le as full of Vietnam Chronicles (Lich Trieu Hien Chuong)<sup>25</sup> was recorded. Hopefully through this study, we can help the researchers to have exact grounds composed epitaph Shinto of Hoang Dinh Ai, and additional written work of Dr Ngo Tri Hoa, who was honored for the first time in the history department of Vietnam have father and son passed the doctor in the same examination together<sup>26</sup>!

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> His native of Bien Thuong, Vinh Phuc, now Vinh Hung, Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province. The same with Lord Trinh countryside.

<sup>2</sup> Vietnam Social Sciences (1993) Great Vietnamese history, Social Sciences Publishing House, Hanoi. Publishing electronic versions by Le Bac, Industry First, Ngoc Thuy, Tuyet Mai, Hong Ty, Nguyen Quang; The twentieth century book 715 pages record the event.

<sup>3</sup> Phan Huy Chu (1960) "Lich Trieu Hien Chuong Loai Chi" History Publishing House. Du Dia Chi, 273 pages Release Character.

<sup>4</sup> Van Lung, District Thach Thanh commune and now is part of the communal land Thanh Minh, Thach Thanh district, Thanh Hoa province

<sup>5</sup> Great Vietnamese history and Complete Lich Trieu Hien Chuong

<sup>6</sup> Imperial Family genealogy: (The Chinese), no record date, writer, by Mr. Hoang Dinh Dao, Hoang Dinh expenditure Thai church growth. Currently residing in the town of Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province offers.

<sup>7,8,9</sup> Luu Cong Dao (1816) Release Vinh Loc district, symbols VHv.1371 / AB. Vinh Loc style symbol press A.2537 territory. Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province will, symbols VHv.137 / AB (the kanji). The book was translated by Nguyen Van Hai, Thanh Hoa Publishing House, 2010, 1st edition, reprinted in 2012.

<sup>10,11</sup> Lich Trieu Hien Chuong Loai Chi, Vietnamese full history

<sup>12</sup> Ngo Duc Tho eds, (2006) The authors of Vietnam. Literature Publishing House. Order No. 1425 and 1515 characters

<sup>13</sup> This contest his Giap Hoang passing, when 28 years old, his father passed his examination at the same time when 58-year-old.

<sup>14</sup> 1484, to uphold the policy of honoring Confucianism and Confucian intellectual level university science park, King Le Thanh Tong (1460-1497) gave up epitaph begins examination, year of the dog (1442). Currently the remaining 82 stone steles engraved epitaph the recommended list Dr. Vietnam's Confucian examinations dynasty Dinh Le and Mac Dynasty (1442-1779) at Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam, Hanoi. Dated 09.03.2010 in Macau, China, the world's memories Commission for Asia - Pacific has recognized 82 steles of doctoral examinations timetable Le and Mac at Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam (Hanoi) is the world's documentary heritage of the world program of UNESCO memories.

<sup>15</sup> Do Van Ninh (2010) epitaphs of Quoc Tu Giam - Thang Long Ha Noi Youth Publishing House.

<sup>16</sup> The whole Vietnam Thi Luc, denoted A. 3200/3 9 issue 12, sheet 82B) library Han Nom Research Institute in Hanoi.

<sup>17</sup> Vinh Loc District

<sup>18</sup> That only Luu Cong Dao, Hoan Chau people. Now the province of Nghe An.

<sup>19</sup> Thieu Khang: restoring the Ha dynasty,

<sup>20</sup> La cong: La Vong, whose real name is Khuong Thuong, he was a great general account and is set up to contribute to the cause of the Zhou (China) lasted more than 800 years

<sup>21</sup> Tuyen Vuong: Chu Tuyen Vuong was the United Kingdom called the Static, ruled from 827TCN - 782TCN, 11th king of the Zhou Dynasty had the house restored to Chu

<sup>22</sup> Tu Di:

<sup>23</sup> Vinh Hung commune, Now in Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province.

<sup>24</sup> La Thai Cong

<sup>25</sup> Lich Trieu Hien Chuong loai chi

<sup>26</sup> In terms of the civil service examination schedule feudal dynasty in Vietnam, to nowadays, the first time father and son pass the same examination,

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